

Filed for intro on 03/09/98

SENATE RESOLUTION 89  
By Williams

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Gene Tharp, President of the Union County Historical Society and the staff of the Roy C. Acuff Union Heritage Museum and Library.

WHEREAS, Union County was created in 1850 from Grainger, Claiborne, Campbell, Anderson and Knox counties, the origin of the name is believed to have derived either from the "union" of five counties or from the strong feelings in East Tennessee for the preservation of the Union; and

WHEREAS, the exemplary Roy C. Acuff Union Heritage Museum and Library, located in Maynardville, does an excellent job of chronicling and preserving the history of one of our most historic counties; and

WHEREAS, this exceptional and very popular facility, named in honor of its most generous contributor who was a resident of Union County, was dedicated on August 6, 1994; and

WHEREAS, the museum, which is open from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sundays and from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays, is staffed by 15 volunteers from the Union County Historical Society; and

WHEREAS, in addition to Roy Acuff, many other musical legends are memorialized in the museum, including Chet Atkins, the greatest guitar player of all time, Carl Smith, one of the most important country hit-makers of the 1950s, Esco Hankins, and Lois Johnson; and

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WHEREAS, a permanent theme of the museum is the impact that the Tennessee Valley Authority had on Union County in the 1930s; and

WHEREAS, another of the many highlights of the museum is an extensive collection of photographs taken in Union County during the Great Depression; and

WHEREAS, Gene Tharp, President of the Union County Historical Society, and the staff are deserving of special recognition for their fine work in preserving Union County and Tennessee history; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we honor and commend Gene Tharp and the staff of the Roy C. Acuff Union Heritage Museum and Library and wish them much continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation, with this final clause omitted from such copy.